Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05460 270708Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01 IGA-02 EUR-12 EA-07 /091 W

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R 261135Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1892

CONFIDENTIALISLAMABAD 5460

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID, PK

SUBJECT: PAKISTAN REQUEST FOR ADVANCE AID PLEDGE

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 5214; (B) ISLAMABAD 4763; (C) STATE 110939

1. IN REF B AND C, WE HAD RECOMMENDED, AND THE DEPARTMENT HAD CONCURRED, THAT THE USG NOT RESPOND AT THIS TIME TO THE GOP REQUEST FOR AN ADVANCE PLEDGE. WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED (REF A) A FORMAL GOP REQUEST THAT "BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES BE STARTED URGENTLY TO DETERMINE THE AID PLEDGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977-78."

2. THOSE OFFICIALS IN THE GOP CONCERNED WITH AID, INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY THOSE WHO DRAFTED THE AID-MEMOIRE IN REF A, ARE AWARE OF THE LEVELS INDICATED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION, AND WILL PRESUMABLY BE USING THESE FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. WE BELIEVE THAT THE REASONS GIVEN EARLIER FOR NOT MAKING A FORMAL RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST ARE STILL VALID. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE BEEN GETTING STRONG SIGNALS THAT A MAJOR RETHINKING OF NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET IS NOW UNDERWAY, WHICH WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE MAJOR SPENDING CUTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET. UNTIL WE SEE THE NATURE OF THESE CUTS, WE WILL NOT KNOW HOW THESE MIGHT AFFECT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 05460 270708Z

THE ADEQUACY OF LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO KEY PROGRAM AREAS.

3. THE GERMANS AND JAPANESE HERE HAVE TOLD US THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS ARE STILL RELUCTANT TO MAKE PLEDGES WITHOUT HAVING EXAMINED THE RELEVANT GOP PLANS. THE JAPANESE IN PARTICULAR ARE CONCERNED ABOUT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS UNDERMINING THE MULTILATERAL CONSORTIUM FORUM.

4. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT NO FORMAL RESPONSE BE MADE AT THIS TIME. WE PROPOSE TO INFORMALLY ADVISE IBRD RES REP KIRK THAT THE NATIONAL FIGURES FOR FY 78 AID TO PAKISTAN ARE CONTAINED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION, WHICH IS ALREADY KNOWN TO GOP AND IBRD. CONSTABLE

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